

REMARKS

Claims 1-3 are pending in the application. Claim 1 has been amended and claims 2-3 are canceled by way of the present amendment. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

In the outstanding Office Action, claims 1 and 2 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being unpatentable over JP-49100017; claim 3 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over JP-49100017.

35 U.S.C. § 102 Claim Rejections

Claims 1 and 2 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being unpatentable over JP-49100017. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

JP-49100017 is directed to a fuel supply device that reduces the number of fuel injection nozzles and equalizes the amount of fuel distributed by these nozzles. Amended claim 1 of the present invention recites in pertinent part:

the fuel supply device (1) includes a plurality of high-pressure pipes (11 to 14) which are provided corresponding to the plurality of high-pressure generating portions (61, 62, 66, 67) and connect fuel outlet ports (6P1 to 6P4) of the corresponding high-pressure generating portions (61, 62, 66, 67) with corresponding inlet ports (2P1 to 2P4) of the common rail (2), and a connection pipe (30 to 33) which connects at least two or more high-pressure pipes (11, 12; 12, 13; 13, 14) out of the plurality of high-pressure pipes (11 to 14) with each other in the vicinity of the corresponding fuel outlet ports (6P1 to 6P4);

characterized in that:

each of the high-pressure pipes (11 to 14) is provided between one inlet port (2P1 to 2P4) and only one of the outlet ports (6P1 to 6P4), wherein each of the high-pressure pipes (11 to 14) is directly connected to only one high-pressure generating portion (61, 62, 66, 67) via the corresponding fuel outlet port (6P1 to 6P4) and an outlet valve (V3, V4) arranged in the fuel pump (6); and

the connection pipe (30 to 33) is arranged to directly connect the at least two or more high-pressure pipes (11 to 14) with each other between the both ends of each of the at least two or more high-pressure pipes (11 to 14) (emphasis added).

That is, in the present invention, *each of the high-pressure pipes (11 to 14) is provided between one inlet port (2P1 to 2P4) and only one of the outlet ports (6P1 to 6P4), wherein each of the high-pressure pipes (11 to 14) is directly connected to only one high-pressure generating*

portion (61, 62, 66, 67) via the corresponding fuel outlet port (6P1 to 6P4) and an outlet valve (V3, V4) (emphasis added). JP-49100017 nowhere discloses this arrangement as recited in claim 1 of the present invention and thus does not disclose every feature of claim 1.

Applicant respectfully submits, therefore, that JP-49100017 does not anticipate the present invention and that claim 1 patentably distinguishes thereover. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. 102 (b) be withdrawn. With respect to the rejection of claim 2, Applicant respectfully submits that the rejection is now mooted since claim 2 is cancelled by the present amendment.

35 U.S.C. § 103 Claim Rejections

Claim 3 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over JP-49100017. Reconsideration is respectfully requested. Applicant respectfully submits that this rejection is now mooted since claim 3 is cancelled by the present amendment.

Conclusion

In view of the above amendment, applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

Applicant believes no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 22-0185, under Order No. 20696-00101-US1 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: June 27, 2008

Respectfully submitted,

Electronic signature: /Myron Keith Wyche/
Myron Keith Wyche
Registration No.: 47,341
CONNOLLY BOVE LODGE & HUTZ LLP
1875 Eye Street, NW
Suite 1100
Washington, DC 20006
(202) 331-7111
(202) 293-6229 (Fax)
Agent for Applicant